

Carnforth Urban District Council



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REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF
HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1962

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Carnforth Urban District Council



R E P O R T
OF THE
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R
OF
H E A L T H
FOR THE YEAR
1962



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CARNFORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

—:o:—

Chairman of the Council :

W. C. Francis, Esq., B.A.

Vice-Chairman :

A. Barber, Esq.

Members :

R. Byram, Esq., J.P.	D. Carr, Esq.
E. Russell, Esq.	(Resigned—16-1-63)
J. Newton, Esq.	P. N. Edsforth, Esq.
W. Shaw, Esq.	J. E. Roberts, Esq., J.P.

Clerk of the Council :

A. Haycock, D.M.A.

Medical Officer of Health :

R. W. Farquhar, B.Sc. (Agric.) M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector :

F. O. Waterhouse

C O N T E N T S

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Carnforth Urban District Council

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1962

To the Chairman and Members of the
Carnforth Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration my Annual Report for the year 1962 on the health, sanitary conditions and circumstances of Carnforth Urban District.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population at mid-year 1962 was 4,070, a decrease of 43 on the previous year.

There were 62 live births during the year equivalent to an adjusted birth rate of 15.2 per 1,000 population compared with an average rate of 19.9 for the preceding five years. The national birth rate in 1962 was 18.0 per 1,000 population.

The 55 deaths assigned to the District represented an adjusted death rate of 15.0 per 1,000 population: the rate for England and Wales was 11.9 per 1,000. The commonest single cause of death was again coronary heart disease.

Only one infant death occurred, giving an infant mortality rate of 16.1 per 1,000 live births, compared with an average rate of 22.2 over the previous five years. The national infant death rate in 1962 was 21.6 per 1,000 live births. No maternal deaths have occurred in the last 8 years.

The incidence of infectious diseases during the year was low and the general health of the inhabitants of the town remained satisfactory.

In the last section of the report your Public Health Inspector has reported fully on the routine work appertaining to environmental hygiene. Of the total of 1,603 inhabited dwellings in the town some 700 were built about 85 years ago and although structurally sound they are lacking in modern conveniences such as bath or hot water supply. It is important that every effort should be made to encourage the improvement or modernisation of these older houses through a much wider adoption of improvement grants.

In conclusion I wish to record my appreciation of the continued interest shown by the Council in all matters relating to Public Health.

Yours faithfully,

R. W. FARQUHAR,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

AREA of the District (Acres)	1,504
POPULATION (Census 1931)	3,139
,, (Census 1951)	3,388
,, (Census 1961)	4,113
,, (Registrar General's Estimate Mid/1962)	4,070
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (1951)	1,095
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (1962)	1,603
(Inclusive of Lettings over Shops)	
RATEABLE VALUE	£47,872
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	£193.68

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SOCIAL CONDITIONS INCLUDING CHIEF OCCUPATIONS OF INHABITANTS

The social conditions of the District are very satisfactory. The chief occupations of the inhabitants are Railway and Agricultural Work.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS—1962

	Males	Females	Total
LIVE BIRTHS (Legitimate)	29	32	61
(Illegitimate)	1	—	1
	—	—	—
TOTAL	30	32	62
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population			15.2
Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population			15.2
STILL BIRTHS—No. Registered	—	—	Nil
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			Nil
DEATHS (All Causes) No. registered	22	33	55
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population			13.5
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population			15.0
DEATHS FROM CERTAIN SPECIFIED CAUSES:			
Heart Disease (all forms)	10	13	23
Cancer (all forms)	5	5	10
Accidents (all forms)	—	3	3
Respiratory Tuberculosis	—	—	Nil
DEATHS FROM MATERNAL CAUSES			Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births			Nil
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE	—	1	1
Total Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births			16.1
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE	—	1	1
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births			16.1
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE	—	1	1
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births			16.1
STILL BIRTHS PLUS FIRST WEEK DEATHS	—	1	1
Perinatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births ...			16.1

**TABLE SHOWING CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES
OF DEATH DURING 1962**

	M	F	Total
Tuberculosis	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm of lung etc.	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm of breast	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	5	8
Diabetes	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	—	8	8
Coronary disease, angina	7	8	15
Hypertension with heart disease	—	2	2
Other heart diseases	3	3	6
Other circulatory diseases	2	—	2
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	1
Bronchitis	2	—	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	—	3	3
Motor vehicle accidents	—	1	1
All other accidents	—	2	2
Suicide	—	—	—
	22	33	55

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1962 AND THE PERIOD 1957-61

	Live births	Deaths (all causes)	Still Births	Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality		Neo-natal								
					Rate per 1,000 registered	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year	1962	62	15.2	55	13.5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	16.1	1	16.1		
Year	1961	65	15.9	48	11.7	1	15.2	Nil	Nil	1	15.4	1	15.4		
"	1960	80	20.4	44	11.2	2	24.4	Nil	Nil	1	12.5	1	12.5		
"	1959	81	20.8	31	7.9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	37.0	3	37.0		
"	1958	72	18.6	44	11.4	1	13.7	Nil	Nil	1	13.9	1	13.9		
"	1957	93	24.2	46	11.9	1	10.6	Nil	Nil	3	32	1	11		
Average	1957-61		19.98		10.8		12.8	Nil	Nil	22.2			17.96		

1962 Adjusted live birth rate (comparability factor 1.00)=15.2
 Adjusted death rate (comparability factor 1.11)=14.98

SECTION B.

**GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA.**

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

In sections C and D of the report full details will be found relating to infectious diseases and environmental health within the Carnforth Urban District, for which services the Council are directly responsible.

The present section is related to those health services which concern mainly the personal health and welfare of the individual rather than public health and the community. Divisional Health Committee No. 2 of the Lancashire County Council, on which committee your Council has one representative, is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the following services, available to the inhabitants of Carnforth as well as to those of neighbouring districts.

(1) Domiciliary Services.

For the benefit of residents in the area two district nurse/midwives are resident in Carnforth, others being available nearby at Yealand Redmayne and Bolton-le-Sands. Three health visitors, who are also trained nurses, are centred on the School Clinic in Market Street. Several Home Helps are resident in Carnforth and Warton.

(2) Care of Mothers and Young Children.

This service is closely correlated with the domiciliary midwifery, health visiting and domestic help services, by which means the mother can receive advice and care for herself and her child as well as help in the home during and after her confinement.

During 1962 the average attendance at the Carnforth child welfare centre was 39.0 children per weekly session.

(3) Combined School Clinic and Child Welfare Centre.

At 21 Market Street, Carnforth, in addition to the child welfare session on Tuesday afternoons (2—4 p.m.) a minor ailment clinic for school children is held on Friday mornings (9.30—11.30 a.m.). An eye clinic is held on alternate Wednesday mornings, and a dental clinic on each Tuesday and Thursday all day. A clinic is held every Thursday afternoon at which expectant mothers attend for relaxation, exercises and the teaching of mothercraft.

(4) Immunisation and Vaccination.

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, and vaccination against smallpox are free services, available either from the family doctor or through the school clinic. Since 1956 vaccination against poliomyelitis and tuberculosis has also been available to children in certain age groups.

(5) Ambulance Service.

The Carnforth area is served by ambulances based on the Lancaster and Morecambe stations.

(6) Other Services.

Certain other services are organised on a divisional basis, without allocation of staff to particular areas. Thus 4 mental health workers and one tuberculosis health visitor cover the whole division. The arrangements for sending persons recovering from illness to convalescent homes are made through the Divisional Health Office, Lancaster.

(7) Welfare Services—National Assistance Act, 1948.

The following welfare services are also administered by the Divisional Health Committee :—

- (a) Residential Accommodation : For persons in need of care and attention not otherwise available to them accommodation is provided at Dolphinstone, The Laurels and Fair Elms at Lancaster ; at the Empress Hostel, Morecambe ; Moor Platt and The Hermitage at Caton.
- (b) Temporary Accommodation : In case of urgent need, e.g. fire, flood or eviction, temporary shelter is provided by arrangement with the County Medical Officer of Health.
- (c) Handicapped Persons : For persons who are blind, deaf, or otherwise substantially and permanently handicapped, certain welfare services and facilities are made available, either through the agency of voluntary organisations or directly by the County Council.

(d) Homes for Disabled and/or Old Persons : There are seven homes of this nature in the division, all managed by voluntary/or private bodies. These are registered and inspected regularly by the divisional medical staff.

(8) Laboratory Facilities.

The bacteriological examination of milk, water and specimens in connection with infectious diseases is carried out by Dr. Robertson and his staff at the Public Health Laboratory, Preston. Samples of water for chemical examination are sent to the Public Analyst at Preston. Analysis of food and drugs is carried out under the direction of the Lancashire County Council.

(9) Treatment Centres and Clinics.

The following clinics are administered by the Lancaster and Kendal Hospital Management Committee :—

- (a) Tuberculosis :—Chest Clinic, Beaumont Hospital, Lancaster.
- (b) Venereal Diseases :—Special Treatment Centre, Royal Lancaster Infirmary.
- (c) Deaf Aid Clinic :—A session for the provision of hearing aids is held at 21, Market Street, Carnforth, on the first Wednesday of each month.

SECTION C.

**PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

**NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than
Tuberculosis) CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1962**

Age Periods-Years

Disease	Cases	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-and over
Measles	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total Cases	5	—	2	1	1	—	—	1	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

During 1962 there were two new cases of tuberculosis but no deaths from this disease were recorded.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Since 1948 only one case of diphtheria has been notified in Carnforth. The young mothers of to-day do not realise the danger of this disease but localised outbreaks still occur sporadically in this country. The present immunisation and vaccination programme now affords a considerable degree of protection against six diseases—diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis and smallpox, and it is important that every advantage be taken of this service so as to ensure a high level of immunity in the population.

In the following table the numbers of Carnforth children immunised against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus in the last seven years are compared.

IMMUNISATION IN CARNFORTH — 1956—1962

Number of individuals who completed a full course of primary immunisation.

Age Group	Diphtheria			Whooping Cough			Tetanus		
	0-4	5-14	Total	0-4	5-14	Total	0-4	5-14	Total
1956	68	4	72	65	—	65	57	—	57
1957	75	4	79	72	—	72	71	—	71
1958	73	7	80	74	2	76	66	1	67
1959	75	6	81	76	3	79	72	3	75
1960	95	8	103	92	2	94	92	7	99
1961	58	5	63	57	1	58	58	5	63
1962	60	1	61	60	—	60	60	1	61

Number of individuals who were given a re-inforcement injection.

Age Groups	Diphtheria All ages	Whooping Cough All ages	Tetanus All ages
1956	123	2	—
1957	70	12	2
1958	135	36	3
1959	141	19	5
1960	138	12	36
1961	138	18	78
1962	155	15	101

SECTION D.

**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE AREA.**

WATER SUPPLY.

Water, abundant in quantity, is supplied from the Lune Valley Water Board reservoir situated at Withnets, which has a capacity of 52 million gallons. It is chlorinated and filtered. 9 samples were submitted for bacteriological analysis, 8 of which were reported to be highly satisfactory.

With the exception of 5 private houses and 3 farm houses, all permanent dwellings within the area are connected to the public water supply. The exceptions above referred to have private supplies piped to the building in each case.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The sewerage of the whole area is by gravity. In general it is the "combined" system, though a "separate" system has been introduced to deal with a site of approximately 140 houses, whereby rainwater from roofs and roads is discharged to an open watercourse in order to avoid any additional loading of the Highfield and Kellet Road sewers.

The main portion of the town, which includes the area which has been used for post-war housing expansion, is seweraged to a tank alongside the River Keer (a tidal stream) and after settling in this tank the effluent is subject to discharge on ebb tide. Two other sewage disposal plants deal with the remaining portion of the district (the Crag Bank area), each discharging the effluent into adjacent streams after sedimentation and filtration. The tidal tank referred to above undertakes no purification whatever, and is unsuitable as a disposal unit. During the current year the Local Authority have embarked upon the preparation of a new sewerage and sewage disposal scheme jointly with Lancaster R.D.C.

PROVISION OF WATER CLOSETS, ETC.

With the exception of six premises, all dwellings (inclusive of farms) within the area have fresh water closets. Pail closets are provided in four cases without water closets.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The Council continue to tip at Cote Stones by agreement with the Lancaster Rural District Council and arrangements are very satisfactory to the Council.

A weekly collection of domestic refuse is made and trade refuse is collected from various premises. Approximately 1,700 bins per week are dealt with.

HOUSING.

During 1962 eight houses have been built by private enterprise. There is very little activity within the area so far as housing development is concerned and it would appear that this form of development is taking place outside the Urban area, rather than within it.

The existing housing facilities are made up as follows :—

- 604 modern type
- 458 cottage type
- 286 parlour type.

Further progress in house improvements has been made by owner-occupiers continuing to avail themselves of the "Standard" grants made to them by the Local Authority, 19 having been granted during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

No. of premises inspected	73
Defects discovered	18
Defects remedied	18
Informal Notices served	18
Statutory Notices served	None

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are none in the area.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS AND FOOD PREMISES.

The three butchers in the area are obtaining carcase meat and offal from wholesale distributors outside Carnforth. It is inspected before despatch and as there are no local slaughter-houses within the area the problem of meat inspection at time of slaughter of animals does not arise.

Contact with the shops is, however, maintained, though there has been no occasion for the condemnation of any fresh or imported meat or offal during the year.

Small amounts of tinned foods, surrendered by shopkeepers, have been dealt with.

No fish arriving in the area has had to be certified as unfit for consumption.

MILK SUPPLY.

Action taken with regard to the administration of the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949—

No. of distributors registered by the L.A. and operating from :—

(a) Dairies in the district	3
(b) Shops in the district other than dairies	4
(c) Premises outside the district	3

Action taken by the L.A. in relation to samples taken within the district.

A. Samples for Biological Examination

1962

RESULTS

	No. of Samples Submitted	Positive	Negative	No result
RESULTS	26			
(1) Tuberculosis		Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Brucellosis—Ring Test		3	23	Nil
(3) Brucellosis—Culture Test		Nil	4	Nil
(4) Brucellosis—Biological Test		Nil	Nil	Nil

B. Samples for Statutory Test

RESULTS

	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Void Samples
Raw Milk				
(1) Methylene Blue Test	31	30	1	Nil
Heat Treated Milk				
(1) Methylene Blue Test	6	6	Nil	Nil
(2) Phosphatase Test	6	6	Nil	Nil
(3) Turbidity Test	1	1	Nil	Nil

Results of Ministry Investigations	Nil
No. of herds examined by veterinary inspectors	Nil
No. of cases where animals seized under Tuberculosis Order, 1938	Nil
No. of animals seized	Nil
No. of cases reported negative where animals had been seized	Nil
No. of cases reported negative, no animals seized	Nil
Action taken under Regulation 19 of the M. and D. Regulations, 1949	None necessary
Action taken under Regulation 20 of the M. and D. Regulations, 1949	None necessary

ICE CREAM.

There are no premises in the district manufacturing ice cream by the heat treatment process and all premises registered for the sale of ice cream are satisfactory for the purpose.

FOOD POISONING.

There have been no outbreaks of food poisoning within the Urban District during the year.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's area has been little affected by rats or mice and no notices have been required to enforce disinfestation.

The Sewers have shown themselves free on test baiting. The sewage disposal works are occasionally found infested, but they are treated when necessary and kept under control.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

There are none in the area.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 23 in number and all are of a small type. No conditions have been found calling for action and no reports received of non-compliance with the Act.

Mayoh Press Ltd., Carnforth